

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the Application, please amend the set of claims as hereinafter indicated.

1-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) An oil filtering device for use in an in-line oil filtering configuration, said oil filtering device comprising:

a filter part having a micro-filtration device filter for filtering oil and also a closure member, wherein said micro-filtration filter ~~[[part]]~~ is substantially cylindrical and has axial end faces and also an interior space that are formed by said micro-filtration device, and wherein said closure member has a contact face substantially adapted for sealingly engaging one of said axial end faces of said micro-filtration filter;

a filter housing having both a main housing part and a lid part ~~[[and]]~~ adapted for removably retaining said filter part;

a clamping mechanism for removably securing said lid part onto said filter main housing part;

an inlet port defined in said filter housing and situated outside said filter part for facilitating inward radial flow-filtering of said oil through said micro-filtration device filter;

an outlet port defined in said filter housing and adapted for fluid communication with ~~[[a]]~~ said substantially cylindrical interior space of said micro-filtration filter ~~[[part]]~~; and

~~a closure member having a contacting face substantially adapted for sealingly engaging one of said axial end faces of said filter part;~~

a spring for being loaded between said filter part and said filter housing;

wherein said closure member has ~~[[an]]~~ a valveless open bore defined therethrough for enabling said oil to flow into said inlet port, through said open bore, into said interior space of said micro-filtration filter ~~[[part]]~~, and out through said outlet port so as to permit at least some of said oil to bypass said micro-filtration device ~~of said filter~~ ~~[[part]]~~ altogether during said use of said oil filtering device.

12. (Previously Presented) An oil filtering device according to claim 11, wherein an oil passage closing face is integrated into said filter housing.

13. (Currently Amended) An oil filtering device according to claim 11, wherein ~~[[a]]~~ the radial thickness of said micro-filtration device filter is ~~larger~~ greater than a radial thickness the radius of said interior space ~~of said filter part within said filter housing~~.

14. (Currently Amended) An oil filtering device according to claim 11, wherein said micro-filtration device filter has a diameter substantially equal to that of said filter part.

15. (Previously Presented) An oil filtering device according to claim 11, wherein said filter housing has a dimple on its inner surface for positioning said filter part in said filter housing.

16. (Previously Presented) An oil filtering device according to claim 11, wherein said inlet port is positioned radially outside said filter part.

17. (Currently Amended) An oil filtering device according to claim 11, wherein said micro-filtration device filter has a diameter substantially equal to that of said filter part, said filter housing has a dimple for positioning said filter part, and said inlet port is positioned radially outside said filter part.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) An oil filtering device according to claim 11, wherein said valveless open bore defined through said closure member serves as a by-pass bypass mechanism that provides at least a minimum flow of said oil through said filtering device at substantially all times during said use.

20-21. (Canceled)

22. (Currently Amended) An oil filtering device according to claim 11, wherein said closure member includes a cylindrical notch adapted to fit in said ~~cylindrical~~ interior space of said micro-filtration filter ~~[[part]]~~.

23. (Currently Amended) An oil filtering device according to claim 11, wherein said closure member contacts the inner surface of said filter housing by way of ~~[[a]]~~ said spring.

24. (Currently Amended) An oil filtering device according to claim 11, wherein said valveless open bore defined through said closure member fluidly connects said interior space ~~[[in]]~~ of said micro-filtration filter ~~[[part]]~~ to an in-housing space that is exterior to said filter part.

25-28. (Canceled)

29. (Currently Amended) An oil filtering device according to claim 11, wherein said filter part further has a perforated tube that lines the inner surface of said micro-filtration device filter and thereby defines said ~~substantially-cylindrical~~ interior space of said micro-filtration filter ~~[[part]]~~.

30. (Currently Amended) An oil filtering device according to claim 22, wherein said valveless open bore is particularly defined through said notch of said closure member.

31. (New) An oil filtering device according to claim 11, wherein said inlet port is particularly defined through said lid part of said filter housing.

32. (New) An oil filtering device according to claim 11, wherein said filter part further has a second closure member that has a contact face substantially adapted for sealingly engaging the other one of said axial end faces of said micro-filtration filter.

33. (New) An oil filtering device according to claim 32, wherein said second closure member has an open bore defined therethrough for enabling said oil to flow from said interior space of said micro-filtration filter, through said open bore of said second closure member, and out through said outlet port during said use of said oil filtering device.

34. (New) An oil filtering device according to claim 32, wherein said filter part further has an O-ring mounted on the outer surface of said second closure member.

35. (New) An oil filtering device according to claim 11, wherein said spring is adapted for being loaded particularly between said closure member of said filter part and said lid part of said filter housing.